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Stucker Fork Conservancy District water rate case: Consumer comments invited

Do you want to voice your opinion on Stucker Fork Conservancy District's proposed water rate increase? Here's your chance.

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is inviting written comments from Stucker Fork customers through Friday, January 8, 2015. The district provides water utility service to approximately 7,500 customers in six counties (Scott, Clark, Jefferson, Jackson, Jennings, and Washington).

Stucker Fork Conservancy District is seeking Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) approval to change rates in two phases. The monthly water bill for a residential customer using 5,000 gallons would drop from \$16.55 to \$15.45 in the case's first phase, then rise to \$17.40 in the second phase. In addition, the fire protection charge for customers in the City of Austin would rise from the current \$6.08 to \$6.84 at the end of the second phase. The district's current rates were approved in 2013.

In its testimony and exhibits, the district says it is seeking the rate changes to pay for capital improvements including expansions and improvements to the Marble Hill water treatment plant, electrical improvements to booster stations and the Marble Hill plant, improvements to the Austin water treatment plant, a new one-million gallon storage tank, and other initiatives.

For more information on the case, including the utility's testimony, please visit www.in.gov/oucc/2708.htm.

The OUCC – the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the IURC – is reviewing the utility's request and has not yet taken a position in this case. The OUCC is scheduled to complete its review and file its testimony with the Commission on January 15, 2016.

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Morgan Foods, Inc. has formally intervened in this case and is also scheduled to file testimony on January 15, 2016.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments may do so via the OUCC's Website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, or by mail, email or fax:

Mail: Consumer Services Staff
 Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
 115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
 Indianapolis, IN 46204

email: <u>uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov</u>

Fax: (317) 232-5923

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments no later than January 8, 2016 so that it can: 1) Consider them in preparing its testimony and 2) File them with the Commission to be included in the case's formal evidentiary record. Comments should include the consumer's **name**, **mailing address**, and a reference to "**IURC Cause No. 44687**."

Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

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(IURC Cause No. 44687)

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) represents Indiana consumer interests before state and federal bodies that regulate utilities. As a state agency, the OUCC's mission is to represent all Indiana consumers to ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education, and creative problem solving.

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